

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in the present application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a heat transfer device for dissipating heat comprising the steps of:

arranging a plurality of fins that are formed with openings that substantially align with one another so as to define a die;

forming a collar raised around at least part of each of said openings;

driving a heat pipe into said die so as to deform the heat pipe thereby forming at least one flattened surface and wherein an outside shape of the heat pipe is complementary with said openings; and

supporting said fins upon the heat pipe such that the heat pipe substantially defines a mounting base for said heat transfer device, and is attachable to a heat source for thermal energy exchange with said heat source.

2. – 7. (Withdrawn)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein forming a collar raised around at least part of each of said opening openings occurs prior to driving the heat pipe.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said fins are substantially exclusively supported by said at least one heat pipe.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including changing said outside shape of said heat pipe by driving the heat pipe on a forming surface defined by said plurality of fins.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein arranging a plurality of fins includes forming a stack of spaced-apart fins.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including forming the fins from substantially parallel flat sheets.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including deforming the heat pipe by contact with the fins.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including aligning the openings in the fins to define a channel, and wherein the channel has a reduction in channel width for at least partially defining the outside shape of the heat pipe.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including forming the heat pipe to define an oval cross-section having a flattened surface on at least one side.